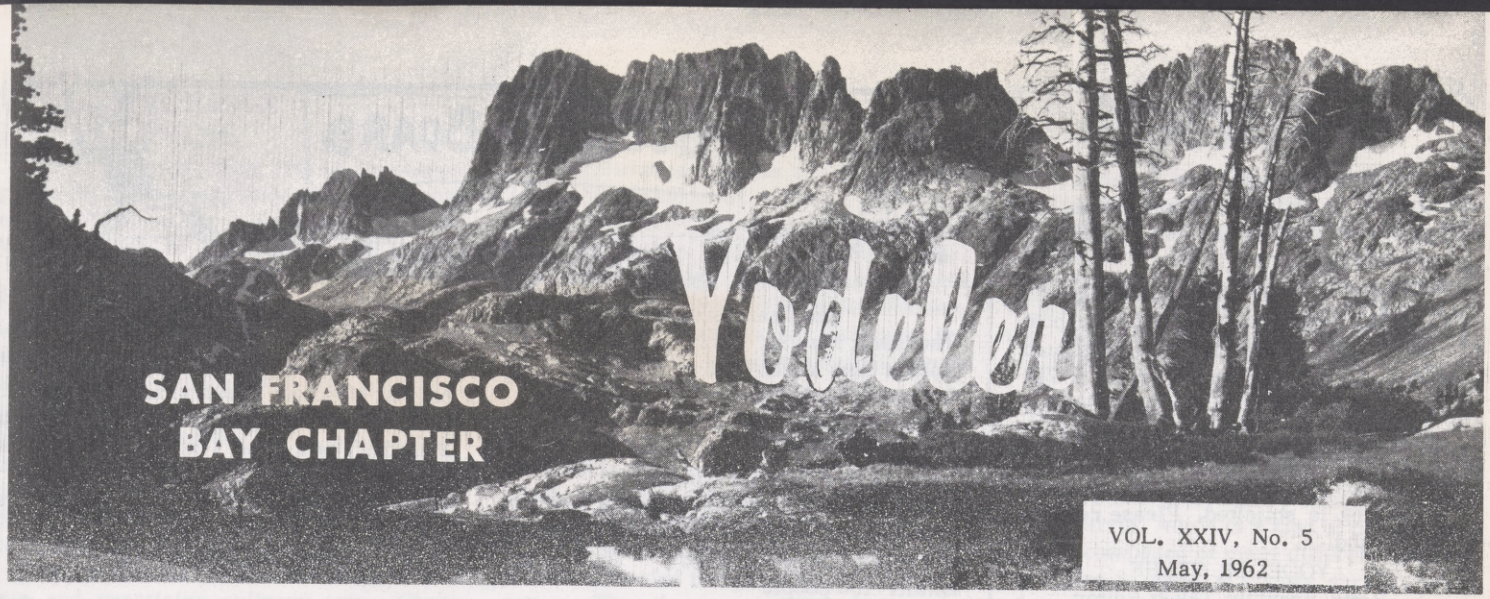


VOL. XXIV, No. 5
May, 1962

I. & E. CONFERENCE REPORT

The I & E Conference held at Santa Barbara on April 7-8 drew some 200 members from all of the chapters except the Atlantic and Great Lakes. They came from various points in California; Reno, Nevada; Eugene, Ore. Seventeen from the Bay Area went down by chartered bus.

The weather was magnificent. Wild flowers were in their prime. Many of us had chances to visit old friends, tour the Mission and the Botanic Garden. The Los Padres Chapter members were excellent hosts. Food was good. The Saturday luncheon was especially nice and it was a pleasure to be able to eat outside in the Museum grounds.

Bay Area charter bus people had a "pad" on the gym floor of the Santa Barbara High School, a swimming pool and other comforts. The school custodian and the bus driver hovered over us, prodding and poking to get us awake, dressed, fed and to our meetings on time.

The conference enabled "oldtimers" in Club work to air problems and express ideas on what "The Trail Ahead" will be for a growing club. For the comparative newcomer to the Club and its work, the conference was indeed informative and educational. Since the writer is in the latter category, the following brief summary of points brought out at the conference are shaded by newness and are directed to newcomers who did not attend.

It was brought out that since the Sierra Club entered the national conservation scene some 10 years ago and started publishing articles in the Bulletin on conservation, membership has increased by about 16,000. The New York Times stated in a recent article that we are the most effective national organization working on conservation. With this increase in effectiveness, we become more vulnerable to attacks by the opposition.

Because of our growth, and in order to continue our excellent conservation work, we must have better communications within the Club—chapter to member and Club to

CONT. PAGE 3

NOW OR NEVER FOR STATE PARKS

Bonds for State and County Parks take the spotlight this month. The program of State Parks to be financed by the 150 million bond issue on the June ballot is of immense importance to the State. Read what the chairman of the State Park Commission had to say about it. (As reported by the Santa Barbara News-Press after the I & E Conference dinner). Calling for support of the most dramatic state park bond issue in the nation, Joseph C. Houghteling told a crowd of 200 Sierra Club members.... "We must begin yesterday, for tomorrow will be too late". Houghteling emphasized the urgency of the bond issue by stating that the proposed $150,000,000 issue in real 1962 dollars would add no more to the State Park system than the original $6,000,000 bond issue did in 1928. He noted that fair value on ocean beach land now runs nearly $100 an inch.

We have just one month to show the world that California knows how to build up the finest State Park system in the country, and every Yodeler reader is needed as a one-man advertising agent. It costs nothing to talk to the neighbors, very little to send postcards to out-of-town friends. The Club members are - we hope - already informed, but for strangers arm yourself with a few facts. There will be something for everyone in this State plan for recreation, 45 million is earmarked for assistance to County Regional Parks, 5 million for small boat harbors, about 75 million for new acquisition and the rest for developing the parks we now have. Of course there is opposition and we shall hear much about taking land off the tax rolls. However, about 50% of the proposed acquisitions are already off the tax rolls, and the rise in tourist and vacation use brings ready cash to the districts, for motels and restaurants pay taxes too. A pay-as-you-go method has great merit as a regular habit but sometimes the future demands proper financing. Remember that $100 an inch for beaches. Very soon it may be $1000 an inch.

CONT. PAGE 2 COL. 3

DIRECTORS ELECTED

The Club re-elected five present Directors to the Board at the April 14th election. They are: Nathan C. Clark, George Marshall, Charlotte E. Mauk, Bestor Robinson, and William Siri. The election was by no means a walk-over, remaining uncertain until the last few minutes of five hours counting. There was a wealth of good material to consider on the ballot and the voting showed great interest and care in marking the ballots.

We would like to share one very pleasant fact with the voters: our hardworking secretary, Charlotte Mauk, received an "appreciation" of more than five hundred votes above any other candidate. 6930 ballots were counted, which is somewhat more than were cast last year.

—Election Committee

CONSERVATION NEWS IN BRIEF

Wilderness Bill. — Hearings have, at last, been scheduled before the House subcommittee (Chairman Hon. Gracie Pfost) on May 7-9. The full House Committee may hear the bill the following week.

Point Reyes. — Nothing has been heard on the bill, which waits for action by the Rules Committee. An advertisement in the San Rafael Independent urged buyers to take up land there now, because there is no chance that the bill will pass at this session. Yodeler readers outside Marin County, especially in other chapters, can help us at this point by calling attention of their Congressmen to this brash statement, and asking for action accordingly.

The Richvale Irrigation District request for rights to dam and divert the middle fork of the Feather River has been pending before the State Water Commission since April 1960. The request has just been granted on the grounds that recreation is not considered as important as agricultural

CONT. PAGE 2 COL. 1

Sierra Club Yodeler

A publication of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Address all communications to Yodeleditor, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4

For club members only, classified ads (private transactions), will be accepted at the rate of 35¢ per line of printed copy. The 'enterprise' rate is 70¢ per line. Persons submitting ads may compute their copy on the basis of approximately 7 words per line. Check must accompany copy. Commercial advertising is solicited. Please request rate card.

YODELER STAFF

Betty Franklin, Guest Editor

Claudia Owen — Thelma Carder
Beverly Anderson — Liz Lockwood
Barbara Evans

Circulation Manager — Cicely M. Christy
Production Manager — A. Louis Elliott
Advertising Manager — Jim Watters
Subscription — $2.00 per year
Next deadline: — May 21
Editorial Work Night: — May 21

VOL. XXIV, No. 5 — May, 1962

COME TO YODELER NIGHT - MAY 21
Easy Work - New Friends - Lots of Fun
And We Need Your Help.

CHAPTER EXEC. COMM.

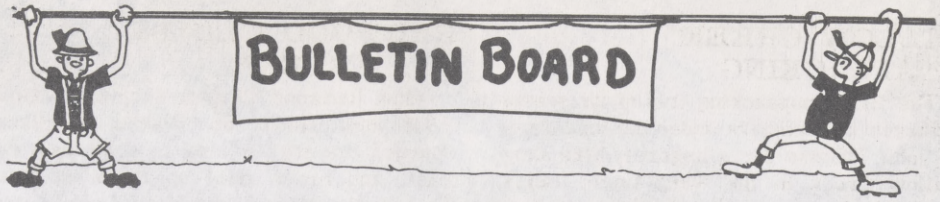
At the meeting of the Chapter Executive Committee on April 9th the Committee appointed Betty Franklin to be guest editor of the Yodeler. Peter Whitney has been editor for the past two years. He is a journalist by profession and the Yodeler has benefited greatly by his technical know-how. Betty has been editor of Bonanza, the Mother Lode Chapter newsletter, for two years and has recently moved to San Francisco. The Chapter Committee also accepted with regret the resignation of Jim Watters as Publications Committee chairman. Jim has done a great deal of quiet background work in organizing Yodeler production and building up the advertising revenue, much appreciated by the Executive Committee.

CONSERVATION (Cont.)

and power development. This is a blow to the Fish and Game Department, as well as to recreationists. It will mean the loss of one more of our scarce wilderness-type streams much valued by boatmen and fishermen. Appeals are being planned and must be filed before April 25. The Sierra Club will continue to oppose this project.

Scenic Roads, and the Delta Recreation studies are also in the news, and will be dealt with in the next issue of Yodeler.

—C.M.C.



San Francisco Dinner

Thursday, May 31, 1962
Golden Gate Yacht Club
Social hour: 6-7 p.m.
Dinner: 7 p.m. - $2.00
Program:

North of the Arctic Circle.

Wildlife and scenery of Alaska by Charlotte Mauk, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club.

Limit: 150 people

Reservations required. Please call Betty Franklin GR 4-1825 (5-10 p.m.), or Marie Schoppe YU 6-1903 days, JO 7-6825 evenings, before 9 p.m., May 29th.

Marin Area Group

Announcement of details of the Marin Area Group's May meeting will be sent by card in good time before the meeting date. There are rumors about that they expect to have the first showing of pictures from the Sierra Club Hawaiian trip.

STORRS LEE TO SPEAK

Sierra Club members are invited to hear Storrs Lee on Thursday evening, May 10, when he will be one of the guest speakers on the "Meet The Authors" program at Galileo Adult School, Bay street and Van Ness Avenue from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

His recently-published book "The Sierra", filled with drama-packed stories of the people whose lives have been deeply influenced by the great California range, has been dedicated to the Sierra Club.

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Mountain Theatre

"Rip of the Mountain" will be this year's play at Mountain Theatre, atop Mt. Tamalpais. It will be given two Sundays — May 20 and 27, at 2 p.m. The play is an adaptation of the Rip Van Winkle story, with a cast of over 100 actors, singers and dancers.

Gem and Mineral Show

The 24th Annual Gem and Mineral Festival will demonstrate polishing, gem cutting and jewelry making at Scottish Rite Temple, 1547 Oak Street, Oakland, on Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20, from 10 a.m.

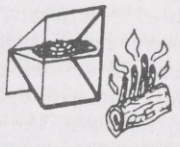
SCHEDULE SUPPLEMENT

JUNE 3. REDWOOD REGIONAL LEADER STEVE WYCKOFF WILL BE REPLACED BY HARRY WELDON.

July 1: on the hike to Butano Ridge the leaders have been changed to Ken Gooden and Herman Borchardt.

Social Note: Reason for the above change is that Frank Williams, former leader on this hike, is marrying Nancy Mais that weekend.

HAVE MORE FUN CAMPING ... WITH A



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NOW OR NEVER (Cont.)

Contra Costa members are working hard to advertise their own County Park bond issue of seven million dollars (also on the June ballot) which will buy nine parks of all kinds from cultural center to the riding and hiking country of Briones valley. Every Contra Costa resident will receive a brochure describing the program, for county money may be used for such educational purposes. The cost to the individual taxpayer would be, at maximum, less than $2.00 annually on the taxes of a $15,000 house, an amount that can be saved in gasoline by going to one of those neighborhood parks rather than hunting the hills for a place to picnic.

—C.M.C.

WILLOW CREEK KNAPSACKING

The first knapsacking trip of the season gathered 20 members under the leadership of John Thomas for a leisurely hike along Willow Creek in the Santa Lucia Range.

The trail started high above Arroyo Seco River, dropped rapidly to the Willow Creek inlet, then followed the creek 5 miles to the campsite. And such a scenic trail it was—the hills covered with lush greenery, early wildflowers gaily poking out their colors in the sunshine, and a cool, shaded creek winding around rocks. We criss-crossed the creek eleven times while cynical photographers kept cameras poised to record missteps.

Camp activities featured basking in the sun and practicing culinary arts. Chefs prepared a variety of delights—rare filet mignon to the latest in dehydrated specialties. One gourmet seasoned his soup with flashlight batteries and lens—no comment on the soup, but the flashlight shone brighter!

The return trip offered a choice of retracing the trail or making a loop. The loop group climbed several ridges to Tassajara Hot Springs, then down to the Arroyo Seco River and home.

—Carol E. Stokes

I. & E. CONFERENCE (Cont.)

chapter. We must recruit more leaders for our activities and not put undue pressure on our present leaders. We must get the idea of conservation needs over to new members who join just for the outdoor activities. We want to make this country a better place to live in, generations from now.

A lot can be accomplished by supporting local, state and national recreation and conservation plans. Our views on conservation can be brought before other local and national organizations, e.g., women's clubs, community improvement clubs, etc. The chapters can work for conservation within their own geographic areas by supporting local recreation plans. The chapters can bring before the citizens of their area, information on national conservation programs and the importance of getting these programs approved by the Federal government.

Individual members of the Club must become more active and play a greater role in the future. They can accomplish this by becoming more informed on local, state and national conservation issues. They can let our politicians know what we want by writing letters and more letters. KEEP WRITING.

Patricia M. Bauer

NOTE: On April 12 a fiercely-burning fire gutted a section of the Santa Barbara Museum, causing $100,000 damage to the marine and geology halls, destroying laboratories, and wiping out years of work on irreplaceable nature specimens.

REDWOOD CLIMBS ST. HELENA

When Redwood Chapter decided to climb 2,918 foot Mount St. Helena, members spurned the easy access by road from the East, and broke trail up the West side. The trail, through thick chaparral, was negotiated by 20 hikers with little difficulty. John Thomas, Conservation Chairman for the Bay Chapter, joined the Redwoodsmen for the trip.

The starting point was reached by winding Ida Clayton Road (off Highway 128). The road itself was a prelude to the adventure of climbing a route which few people have followed, precipitous in spots.

Lunch was eaten by an upthrust of rocky pillars, extruded in some long-past volcanic action. Then the group continued along the rocky backbone of a ridge straddling Lake and Napa counties, with spectacular views into these two and Sonoma County.

The day was sunny, with great puffs of cloud drifting over at intervals, and the hikers anticipated an excellent view from the summit. Alas! The peak and fire lookout station were swathed in fog from a low hanging cloud. So, on the way down about half an hour later, the hikers reached an open place and looked back at the mountain. There it stood, blazing in the full glow of the afternoon sun with not a cloud in sight!

—Anita Garrett

LUXURY "CAR CAMPING" AT WEST POINT

March 17-18 marked a successful and enjoyable "First Time" trip for 36 car campers. Being a relaxed and leisurely bunch, it was decided to open our year of activities with a weekend party at West Point Lodge on Mt. Tamalpais. And here a most heretical thing occurred—we slept on beds, under blankets, with pillows!

To make mountaineers shudder even more, we had a central commissary headed by two swell gals, top flight cooks —Fronie Burnell and Greta Phillips. Man, did we eat and drink! Serving, dishes and cleanup were easily handled by one and all.

Saturday (cool and overcast) was a leisure day; the last arrival drifting in about 8 p.m. There were singing, cards and just plain talk during the evening.

Sunday dawned clear and warmer. We started a 7-mile hike on a "relatively level" and easy-going (hand me my liniment, Ma) trail to Mountain Theater with lunch at Laurel Dell. The views were superb. All brooks and streamlets were running full. Things were so green. The hike did much to blow away Winter's gray from our souls.

This is the first time such a trip has been planned, and we hope to have it each year. The number of people allowed must be limited due to the size of the lodge. Next year, sign up and join the fun. Our special thanks to Ken Grethel for good leadership. —Patricia M. Bauer

N. S. EXCURSIONS TO SANTA CRUZ MTNS.

The April 8th spring wildflower hike of the Natural Science Section to the Mount Umunhum-Loma Prieta area was blessed with a warm, sunny day. The turnout was large (ca. 75 adults), and under the leadership of Dr. John Hunter Thomas, author of the "Flora of the Santa Cruz Mountains of California".

Loma Prieta and Mount Umunhum lie on the eastern edge of the Santa Cruz Mountains, their eastward slopes hot and dry. They are characterized by extensive areas of chaparral, which is a kind of plant community composed of many different species all having in common a dense, shrubby form of growth with many adaptations for prevention of water loss.

Our walk centered in the area heavily burned in the July, 1961 fire. There were many signs of regenerating vegetation, for chaparral is adapted to recurring fires.

An adjacent grove of Knobcone Pine growing in the chaparral also showed adaptation to periodic fires. Knobcones are close-cone pines; that is, their cones stay closed and attached to the tree for years until a fire sweeps it, when the heat causes the cones to open, and the seeds are thus shed when and where needed.

These and many other features of the vegetation were explained by our leader. The spring wildflowers, however, did not favor us with the expected display. Because heat is often required to break their dormancy, many annual herbs usually germinate freely after the first rains following a chaparral fire; but low temperatures lasted for so long this spring that most seedlings were scarcely above ground at this altitude (3800 feet) on April 8th.

—Helen K. Sharsmith

SUMMER VACATION AT CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE

In the hope of contributing its bit to the spirit and activity of the Sierra Club it is announced that Clair Tappaan Lodge will again be in full operation this summer. Adult rates for meals and lodging are $4.50 per day, or $27.00 per week; less for children.

The lodge operates with a small staff, a couple acting as managers, a full-time cook, and a baby sitter. Food preparation and serving, and household chores are done by the members themselves on a sign-up work sheet basis.

The lodge is on Highway US-40 about forty miles west of Reno, at 7,000 feet in a region of spectacular scenery and historical reminders. There are miles of back roads and beautiful foot trails, lakes (of which two, Azalea and Flora, are owned by the Club), streams or vantage points.

For information, write Manager, Clair Tappaan Lodge, Norden, California.

NO TRADITIONAL ANNUAL DINNER THIS YEAR

by Beverly Anderson

Because: someone got the bright idea of getting this young-type dinner chairman, Tena Catena, who goes and finds Goodman's Hall in Jack London Square in Oakland. A real modern maze, like you can park your car and still see the place (no more thrilling or chilling all-evening hikes in the rain through traffic).

For instead of converting a mid-evil Goodman guy constructs a well-ventilated, pleasant, roomy, comfortable one. And then really wrecks things for a traditional banquet by serving piping hot, real human food.

Then the Sierra Club Board gets in the act by further fouling up the whole affair by asking a Martin Linton of Sunset to speak. Good line, good sense of humor, good pictures, good topic, and you have a view from any table. Already I could miss TV on Saturday, May 5th.

$4.75 buys you one reservation

From You

To
Annual Dinner Committee
1050 Mills Tower
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MOUNTAIN REGISTERS

People enjoy signing mountain registers so that they can receive recognition for their accomplishments. "I was there", they can say. This is one of the reasons why we want to keep Sierra Club registers current and intact. We would like to make sure there are plenty of blank pages in register books, but some peaks are infrequently visited.

May we ask your help? Let us know the condition of registers on the peaks you visit this summer by dropping a card to Mountain Records, c/o Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4. —Bill Engs

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MADI BACON, director, San Francisco Boys Chorus Camp, wants Sierra Club Counselors August 3-September 1, Feather River country. HE 1-5450.

2 MAN kayak wanted: Phone Madi Bacon, TH 8-5354.

DON'T FORGET YOUR CAMPFIRE PERMIT

Why are permits required? They are a means of controlling forest fire hazards by informing the public in the safe methods of using camp fires. The Forest Service believes that issuing campfire permits helped limit the number of man-made forest fires.

Campfire permits, valid for the year, can be obtained at all U.S.F.S. Ranger Stations. The Forest Service prefers to issue fire permits; however, you may obtain yours from certain retail stores near recreational areas. You must apply in person—permits are not issued by mail. —Bill Engs